

THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

**Masahiro MORIWAKI**

Group Art Unit: **3742**

Serial No.: **10/673,493**

Examiner: Not yet assigned

Filed: **September 30, 2003**

Confirmation No.: **2305**

For: **ELECTRIC RESISTANCE FURNACE**

Attorney Docket No.: **031725**

Customer Number: **38834**

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**PURSUANT TO 37 CFR 1.97(b)**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

February 11, 2004

Sir:

Applicants direct the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office to the documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. A copy of each listed document is attached.

No fee or certification is required in connection with this Information Disclosure Statement, because it is being submitted prior to the issuance of a first official action on the merits or expiration of the three month period following the filing date or the entry of the national stage of the above-captioned application.

The above information is presented so that the Patent and Trademark Office can, in the first instance, determine any materiality thereof to the claimed invention. Applicants respectfully request that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application and that the documents cited in the attached Form PTO-1449 be made of record therein and appear on the first page of any patent to issue therefrom.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge our Deposit Account No. 50-2866 for any fee that is required to effect consideration of this statement.

Respectfully submitted,

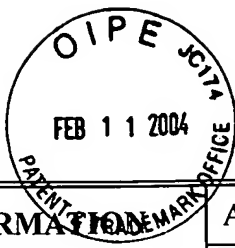
WESTERMAN, HATTORI, DANIELS & ADRIAN, LLP

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sadao Kinashi".

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Enclosures: Form PTO-1449 & 2 References



**INFORMATION  
DISCLOSURE  
CITATION  
PTO-1449**

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Applicant(s): **Masahiro MORIWAKI**

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**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initial		Document No.	Name	Date	Class	Subclass	Filing Date (If appropriate)
	AA						
	AB						
	AC						
	AD						
	AE						

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

		Document No.	Date	Country	Translation (Yes or No)
	AF	7-161454	06/23/1995	Japan	Yes (Partial)
	AG	9-245941	09/19/1997	Japan	Yes (Partial)
	AH				
	AI				
	AJ				

**OTHER DOCUMENTS**

	AK	
	AL	
Examiner	Date Considered	